Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A polarizer which comprises a polarizing element and a protective film bonded to the polarizing element with an adhesive, wherein the adhesive is a water-based adhesive for polarizing elements ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a polyvinyl alcohol resin, a resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and a crosslinking agent, wherein the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure is a copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A polarizer according to claim ~~8~~ 7, wherein the copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene has a weight average molecular weight of 55,000-350,000.

10. (Previously presented) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the crosslinking agent is a compound having an epoxy group.

11. (Previously presented) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol resin is a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin or a mixture of a polyvinyl alcohol resin and a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin.

12. (Previously presented) A polarizer according to claim 7, which comprises the polyvinyl alcohol resin, the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and the crosslinking agent in a weight proportion of 100/(1-1000)/(0.5-5000).

13. (Previously presented) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the protective film is a cellulose acetate film.

14. (Previously presented) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the polarizing element is a polyvinyl alcohol resin film, and the content of boron in the polarizing element is 10-40% by weight in terms of boric acid.

15. (Currently amended) A method for bonding a protective film to a polarizing element which comprises bonding the protective film to the polarizing element by use of a water-based adhesive ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a polyvinyl alcohol resin, a resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and a crosslinking agent, wherein the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure is a copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein the copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene has a weight average molecular weight of 55,000-350,000.

18. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein the crosslinking agent is a compound having an epoxy group.

19. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15,

wherein the polyvinyl alcohol resin is a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin or a mixture of a polyvinyl alcohol resin and a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin.

20. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15, which comprises the polyvinyl alcohol resin, the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and the crosslinking agent in a weight proportion of 100/(1-1000)/(0.5-5000).